

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of : Michael J. Skoglund

Serial No.: Unkown

Filed: July 26, 2001

Former Examiner: Unknown

Former Art Unit: 1714

Docket: 5577 A

Title: FOUNDRY BINDER COMPOSITIONS AND MIXES THAT CONTAIN A  
DIVALENT SULFUR COMPOUND

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is enclosed with the continuation-in-part application filed in connection with serial number 09/627,993 filed on July 28, 2000. Although it is not believed any fees are due in connection with this amendment, the Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account #01-2530 for any additional fees due.

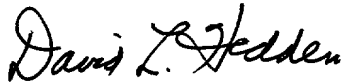
**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

## CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part application is a continuation-in-part application of 09/627,993 filed on July 28, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Hedden  
Attorney for Ashland Inc.  
Registration No. 29,388

Ashland Inc.  
P.O. Box 2219  
Columbus, Ohio 43216

Phone: (614) 790-4265  
Fax: (614) 790-4268  
e-mail: dlhedden@ashland.com